





**Body found in hunt for acid attacker**

A BODY has been found in the River Thames by officers searching for chemical attack suspect Abdul Shokoor Ezedi, the Met Police have said.

Officers spent more than a week hunting for Ezedi, 35 (above) and he was thought to have entered the water.

He was last seen on January 31 on CCTV leaning over the railings of London's Chelsea Bridge on the night a woman and two girls were attacked.

Last night, police had not formally identified the body.

Commander Jon Saville said: "Based on the distinctive clothing he was wearing at the time of the attack, and property found on his body, we strongly believe we've recovered the body of Ezedi."

He added that visual identification had not been possible and that DNA testing and dental records would be needed.

**Anti-Jew claim of defaced passport**

THE Home Office is launching an investigation after a baby's birth certificate was returned to her parents "with the word Israel crossed out".

The Campaign Against Antisemitism said the certificate was sent off as part of a passport application two weeks ago and returned on Monday with the father's place of birth defaced.

The organisation, which exposes cases of antisemitism, said the incident was "completely unacceptable".

They wrote on Twitter: "We are asking the Home Office to investigate."



# YANKS CALL FOR GAZA CEASEFIRE



THE US has proposed a draft resolution at the UN Security Council which calls for a temporary ceasefire in Gaza.

It has also warned Israel against invading the overcrowded city of Rafah.

The US has previously avoided the word "ceasefire" during UN votes on the war, but President Joe Biden has made similar comments.

However, the US plans to veto another draft resolution – from Algeria – which calls for an

immediate humanitarian ceasefire. More than a million displaced Palestinians – who represent about half of Gaza's population – are crammed into Rafah after being forced to seek shelter there.

The southern city, which borders Egypt, was home to only 250,000 people before the war.

Many of the displaced are living in makeshift shelters or tents in squalid conditions, with scarce access to safe drinking water or food supplies.

The UN has issued its own warning that a planned Israeli offensive in the city could lead to a "slaughter".

Israel launched its operations in Gaza following an attack by Hamas gunmen on southern Israel on October 7, during which about 1,200 people were killed and more than 240 others taken hostage.

The Israeli military campaign has killed 29k people in the Palestinian territory, according to the Hamas-run health ministry there.



**Islanders are welcome to stay British**

LORD Cameron says he hopes the Falkland islanders want to stay British "forever".

The Foreign Secretary (above) met some of the islands' most famous residents yesterday when he visited an area famed for its penguin colonies.

He saw the islanders' work to protect the natural environment and see some of the million penguins that live across the UK's overseas territory.

He then travelled on to Paraguay, where he will be the first UK Foreign Secretary to ever visit the country.

The former PM's visit to the Falkland Islands is the first by a Foreign Secretary since 1994 and the first by any Cabinet minister since 2016.

Speaking in the Falklands' capital Stanley, Lord Cameron said: "As far as we are concerned, as long as the Falkland Islands want to be part of the UK family they are absolutely welcome to be part of that family, and we will support them and back them and help protect and defend them for as long as they want."

## Baby formula pricing probe

A NEW probe into the supply of baby formula milk has been launched by Britain's competition watchdog after it found that average prices had soared by 25% in the past two years.

The Competition and Markets Authority said it has begun a market study into formula supply following findings last November of an initial review into the sector.

It said last autumn that the baby formula market was highly concentrated, with just two companies accounting for 85% of sales.

This meant few parents had switched as prices rose, with the CMA revealing infant formula prices were up by a quarter over two years.

A final CMA report is due in September.

## Residents screwed with 21% tax rise after crap Labour council goes bust...

# TAKE IT UP THE BRUM!



**RESIDENTS in Birmingham face a huge 21 percent council tax rise and cuts to services after the City Council went bust.**

Street lights are to be dimmed, waste collections are to become fortnightly as part of £300m budget savings, and burial costs will increase.

Up to 600 job losses are still likely, the local authority said.

The Labour-run authority has revealed details of cuts it must make after declaring itself effectively bankrupt last year.

The financial shock is likely to be repeated across the UK as other councils go under after

By COLIN HURST  
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spending billions on woke nonsense and "green" claptrap.

In a briefing on Monday, Birmingham City Council released details of how it intended to cut £150m from its budget in 2024-25, and the same amount in 2025-26.

Fortnightly bin collections are set to be introduced in 2025-26, but other savings are expected to come in almost immediately.

Dimming streetlights is expected to save almost £1m a year, while cutting spending on highways maintenance could save £12m, depending on the outcome of a Private Finance

Initiative – a partnership with the private sector.

Adult social care will be cut by £23.7m in the next financial year, while the Children's Young People and Families department will be forced to find £51.5m savings.

The council hopes that renegotiating children's travel contracts could save £13m.

### Overspend

In January, the council asked ministers for permission to raise council tax by 10% in each of the next two years.

It was forced to issue a section 114 notice last year, effectively declaring itself bankrupt, after facing equal pay claims of up to £760m and an £80m overspend on an under-fire IT system.

As a result, independent commissioners were brought in to help run the council.

Birmingham City Council owes more than £2.9bn to lenders, placing it ahead of Leeds on £2.2bn and Woking on £1.9bn.

Council Leader John Cotton said they were "really difficult decisions to take", adding: "This is a big number we're seeking to take out of the budget and clearly we know that these will have impacts on citizens in terms of services that they receive."

"What we've sought to do in framing this budget is we mitigate the impact on the most vulnerable, so we've ensured that adult social care and children's services take a much lower percentage cut."

## TODAY'S WEATHER

**WEDNESDAY** kicks off cloudy and rather wet – again! – for most of the UK, as those showers get quite heavy as the day goes on.

The far north west of Scotland and Northern Ireland might see some sun in the afternoon. Temperatures of 10C in London, 12C in Cardiff, 11C in Manchester, and in Belfast and 8C in

### THREE-DAY WEATHER OUTLOOK

FRI SAT SUN

Edinburgh.

Thursday sees more of the same – continued rain and overcast misery for most of Britain.

Temperatures of 10C in London, 12C in Cardiff, 11C in Manchester, and in Belfast and 8C in

OUTLOOK: Shite.

## SPACE BOFFINS FIND MEGA BLACK HOLE



THE most luminous object ever detected has been spied in the distant Universe.

It's a quasar – the bright core of a galaxy that is powered by a gargantuan black hole some 17 billion times the mass of our Sun.

Known as J0529-4351, the object's power was confirmed in observations by the Very Large Telescope in Chile.

Scientists, reporting in

the journal *Nature Astronomy*, say the black hole has a voracious appetite, consuming the mass equivalent to one Sun every day.

J0529-4351 was actually recorded in data many years ago, but its true glory has only just been recognised.

"It is a surprise that it has remained unknown until today, when we already know about a million less impressive

quasars. It has literally been staring us in the face until now," said Christopher Onken, one of the astronomers from the Australian National University working on the VLT observations.

The term quasar is used to describe a galaxy with a very active and energetic core. The black hole at the centre of such a galaxy is pulling matter towards itself at a prodigious rate.

**MIDWEEK Sport**  
ALWAYS HOME  
OF TOPLESS  
BABES

**Porchia Watson**  
32DD, from Basildon, Essex

**BABE OF NEW SPACE DRAMA BARE!**

# NOOMI-WILL HAVE YOU SEEING STARS

OUT OF  
THIS  
WORLD:  
Actress  
strips off



*Constellation*  
- Apple TV+  
from today



**IF you're a fan of space and a fan of fit Noomi Rapace, you'll love *Constellation*.**

*The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo* star plays Johanna Eriksson, a Swedish astronaut who is picking up her life after returning from a disaster at the International Space Centre.

Having navigated her way back to Earth and witnessed the death of her astronaut buddy Paul (William Catlett), Jo's looking forward to some down time.

But she is given a dressing down at a public hearing by the programme boss Irena Lysenko (played by Barbara Sukowa).

Irena insists the events Jo has described could only have been imaginary.

Has Jo's judgement been impaired by her trauma, or do her space programme superiors have something to hide?

It's never quite clear

**By MEL JONES**  
[news@sundaysport.co.uk](mailto:news@sundaysport.co.uk)

whether Jo is a reliable narrator here. Is she actually going crazy, is she being gaslit by Irena, or are powers of space and time at play in a weird way we just can't understand?

Critics say the plot is a bit confusing but if you sat through the 2013 space-time flick *Gravity*, this one should be a walk in the park.

Anyway, here are some pics of lovely Noomi with her teats out in previous roles...

## Drone usage opens up

**URGENT** medical supplies could soon be delivered by drones, under proposals to ease restrictions on the flying gadgets.

Drone inspections of railways, powerlines, and roads could also be increased under plans set out by the Civil Aviation Authority.

A consultation has been launched by the regulator to cut back rules around pilots operating drones beyond where they can see them – which would significantly expand their potential uses.

Under the proposals, drones will be permitted to be flown beyond the line of sight, at a low height.





## World Cup star Andi dies at 63

FORMER Germany defender Andreas Brehme, who scored the winning goal in the 1990 World Cup final, has died aged 63.

Brehme (above) converted a late penalty in the 1990 final, held in Rome, to secure victory against Argentina.

He earned 86 caps and scored eight goals for his country and won league titles while at Kaiserslautern, Bayern Munich and Inter Milan.

"FC Bayern is deeply shocked by the sudden death of Andreas Brehme," the German club said in a statement yesterday.

"We will always keep Andreas Brehme in our hearts – as a world champion and even more so as a very special person."

"He will always be part of the FC Bayern family. Rest in peace, dear Andi."

Germany were managed by Franz Beckenbauer at the 1990 World Cup, who died at 78 in January.

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## Don't toss cash to rare alligator

AN alligator at a zoo is recovering from surgery after vets found 70 coins in the reptile's stomach.

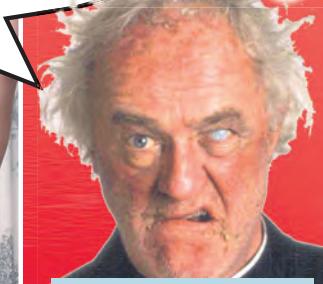
The loose change was found in a rare 36-year-old leucistic gator called Thibodaux, which has translucent white skin and blue eyes.

The Henry Doorly Zoo and Aquarium in Omaha, Nebraska, has now asked visitors not to throw coins into their gator's enclosure.

## As stars champion larger pants...



# BIG FECKIN' GRANNY KNICKERS!



By LOUISE KAYE

[news@sundaysport.co.uk](mailto:news@sundaysport.co.uk)

**LITTLE thongs and G-strings are OUT and big GRANNY KNICKERS are IN!**

That's the word from the celebrity catwalk as famous ladies ditch their small smalls and go for something more comfortable to wear.

The big knickers look has been showcased by everyone from Kate Moss to Emma Corrin and high street retailers report a surge in sales of fuller pants.

Lingerie firm Cosabella said: "Post-pandemic fashion trends have evolved around comfort and functionality instead of traditional standards."

To show how on-trend *Midweek Sport* is, here are some pics of topless babes in big pants...



**ELLIS COOPER,  
34D, FROM  
SUNDERLAND**

# PERVERT SHOVED ANTIQUES UP HIS ARSE ON CCTV

**UNDER A VEST:**  
Mitchell wore kilt during bum related crimes

By PETER ROGERS [news@sundaysport.co.uk](mailto:news@sundaysport.co.uk)

**A PERVERT in a kilt was caught on a shop's CCTV shoving antiques up his arse before returning them to the shelves.**

Word spread quickly through the antiques trade after the man was spotted up to his dirty tricks at The Antique Gallery in Houston, Texas.

Shop manager Susan Golden said: "I had to watch the CCTV footage a couple of times to be sure I knew what I was looking at. I've seen quite a few things here, but nothing like this!"

Mitchell C. Vest, 60, was arrested and charged with criminal mischief for his treatment of items including a makeup brush, a restoration hardware piece, an antique bottle opener, and a collectable tobacco tin.

He also performed a sex act with an antique clock.

Police are still looking for a female companion who was with him.

## Loitering

Ms Golden said Vest had been seen on several previous occasions at the shop – loitering for hours without making any purchases.

She called police after seeing him take the makeup brush and hardware piece, "shove both items up his anus, then return the items to the shelf".

Later that day, he appeared at the nearby Curiosity Shop doing the same thing with a bottle opener and the tobacco tin.

An arrest report says:

**CAUGHT ON CAMERA:**  
Vest put pieces back on shelf after they'd been up his rectum



"Both complainants had to throw away the items that were used in this incident due to faeces being on them."

"Both provided the video surveillance of the incidents, and both wished to press charges."

After his description was circulated, other antiques dealers quickly realised Vest had also

been in their shops.

Mark Herman of the Haris County Police Department said: "On further investigation, we were able to identify the male as Mitchell C. Vest."

"Deputies with my Special Operations Unit found and apprehended Vest for a Criminal Mischief warrant."

## Go veggie to stop snoring

**GOING** veggie could stop you **SNORING**, boffins say.

Meals which are rich in vegetables, fruits, whole grains, and nuts lead to less risk of the debilitating condition sleep apnoea, a study found.

In contrast, people eating an unhealthy diet of refined carbohydrates, sugary drinks, and foods high in sugar and salt had a greater risk.

Sleep apnoea occurs when breathing stops and starts during sleep, and needs to be treated because of a link with type 2 diabetes, strokes, and heart attacks.

New research published in *ERJ Open Research* has identified a link between sleep apnoea and what people eat.

## STRICTLY DANCE STAR ROBIN DIES AGED 44

ROBIN Windsor, a former professional dancer on *Strictly Come Dancing*, has died aged 44.

He appeared on the BBC1 show from 2010 until 2013, partnering with Deborah Meaden, Lisa Riley, Anita Dobson, and Patsy Kensit.

In a statement released yesterday, production company Sisco Entertainment announced Robin's death "with heavy hearts".

He had most recently been starring in *Come What May*, a Moulin Rouge tribute show.

"His extraordinary ability to express emotion through movement captivated audiences, leaving them spellbound with every step," the statement read.

"Beyond his impeccable dancing, Robin's vibrant spirit lit up the room, infusing rehearsals and performances with infectious energy and warmth."

"His friendship was a gift cherished by all who knew him... Robin, you will be deeply missed."



**Alice Cooper**

30GG, from Harrow, north London



## Slurry MP heads up booze plan

A TOP politician who was filmed slurring her words in a committee is now in charge of parliament's new BOOZE policy.

Perin Davey, a senator in the Australian parliament, admitted to sinking two glasses of red wine at a staff function before a Senate hearing on February 13, where she was caught on camera slurring her speech and speaking in a jumbled manner.

Senator Davey (above) could have been in breach of her new policy if it had been in place at the time.

The draft is still being finalised by the Parliamentary Workplace Support Service and is in response to the 'Set the Standard' report, written by former Sex Discrimination commissioner Kate Jenkins.

Section 5.11 of the draft reportedly states "alcohol or legal drug consumption should not adversely affect an individual's work performance or official conduct", a standard Ms Davey would potentially have breached if it was currently in place.

Another section of the draft states MPs must "ensure that they are fit for duty and free from impairment from alcohol or legal drugs".

## Squirrels and deer must go!

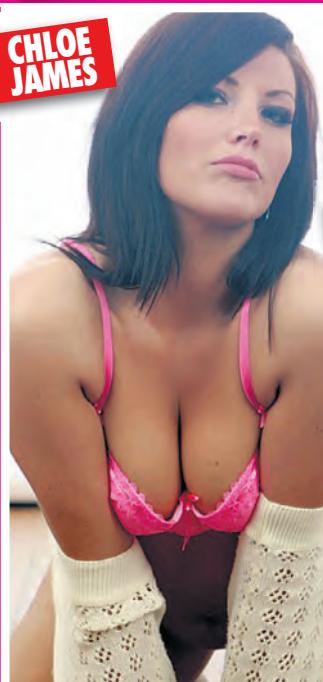
SQUIRRELS will be chemically castrated while deer will be culled, cooked and served to prisoners or those in hospital – under new plans to protect England's forests.

The Government is considering a range of different measures to curb the spread of deer and squirrel populations across the country, in a bid to protect trees and help native species thrive.

England's deer population is larger than it has been for the last 1,000 years and in turn is destroying the nation's woodland.

Meanwhile, grey squirrels are said to cost the economy £37million in negative impacts to trees each year, having harmful effects on trees and also the red squirrel populations that have been dwindling for years.

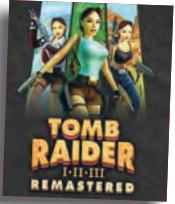
The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs is set to publish its new guidance on how to tackle both issues soon.



# THE BUST tweets OF THE DAY!



**New version of classic video game warns of 'offensive depictions'**



# NOW TOMB RAIDER IS RACIST!

By AMI TAYLOR [news@sundaysport.co.uk](http://news@sundaysport.co.uk)

## DO you enjoy playing the classic video game Tomb Raider?

Well, you're a big RACIST!

A new version of the game has warned users of the potentially "harmful" impact of racial stereotyping in it.

The woke makers of *Tomb Raider Remastered* said there are parts of the game that are "unacceptable in this day and age" but has kept them in, to stop the game straying too far from the original.

The popular game has been made into films with stars such as Angelina Jolie and Alicia Vikander playing the part of Lara Croft.

The game has many new and improved features, and as ever features the British archaeologist Lara going off to different cultures, travelling around the world searching for priceless lost artefacts and infiltrating many dangerous tombs and ruins.

*Tomb Raider* one, two, and three have been "remastered" for the re-release of the game, but many things have not changed.

Refreshed versions of the original trilogy of *Tomb Raider* games were released last week, but these are not dramatic remakes – they still look like older games but have a much



higher polygon count and higher-resolution textures, which the hardware at the time wouldn't allow.

Still in the game is the depiction of a group of South American natives with blowpipes who are implied to be cannibals.

Developer Crystal Dynamics has put in a warning for players when they boot up the game, saying they may see things they do not agree with.

Crystal Dynamics said it wanted to "keep the racist stereotypes in their original form" rather than remove them, as it hopes that doing so will help people "acknowledge its harmful impact" and that we can all "learn from it".

## Sir axed for ogling porn

AN investigation is underway after a supply teacher was caught watching porn in class.

The incident was reported at Cameron Elementary School in West Covina, California.

"The district has taken swift and decisive action following reports from students that allegedly a substitute teacher was viewing inappropriate images on his phone while on school property," school bosses said in a statement.

"The teacher in question was immediately removed from the classroom setting as well as the school as a first step in addressing this serious concern."

A parent said the teacher was rumbled when pupil sneaked out of class and called his father to tell him what was going on.



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# CAMEL TOE IS VOTED HUMP-



# FAVOURITE WARDROBE MALFUNCTION

# BELIEVABLE!

By ANNE COATES

news@sundaysport.co.uk

**YOU** thought it was the nip-slip, didn't you?

But no...

An internet poll has found the world's fave wardrobe malfunction is a big, meaty camel toe.

For the uninitiated, a camel toe is formed when a lady wears tight leggings, or similar, with no panties and – ideally – a fully-shaven MINGE.

### Plump

The result is that onlookers can see the perfect shape of the lady's plump outer fanny lips, complete with the inviting slot where the axe fell.

One fan said: "You can keep your nip-slips. Give me the outline of a gorgeous fanny in a pair of leggings any day of the week."

"I can hardly see a camel toe without being grabbed by the desire to have a good old sniff."



**JEZIKA**  
**FAITH**



**CAROL**  
**VORDERMAN**



**WHITNEY**  
**PAIGE**



**JEZIKA**  
**FAITH**



**LAURA**  
**Trott**



**VIKING**  
**BARBIE**



**Teen's fetish for w\*nking in Walmart**

A TEENAGER caught furiously masturbating in a supermarket told cops that wanking in public was his fetish.

Luke Maxwell Webb, 17 (above), was spotted by a store detective pulling his pud in the cosmetics aisle in a Walmart branch in Dalton, Georgia.

A cop called to the scene witnessed the suspect "standing in the cosmetics aisle, pulling the front of his pants forward and reaching into them with his right hand and making a forward and back motion around the area of his genitals... he appeared to be masturbating. He then stops and walks around the store several times without making any purchases or selecting items while observing women in the store".

When confronted, Webb later told the cop: "I was doing something bad."

He also admitted to committing the act in the past, saying that he masturbated "in Walmart 15 times since last summer" and that "masturbating in public is a fetish" for him.

He was charged with public indecency and possession of a tobacco product as a minor.

**Fear of missing out sufferers seek more sex**

PEOPLE who have a fear of missing out – known as FOMO – are the biggest shaggers, boffins claim.

FOMO is intrinsically linked to anxiety about missing a possible opportunity for sex, a new study has confirmed.

FOMO, an acronym popularised by author Patrick J. McGinnis in 2004, has become perceived as a 21st-century phenomenon fuelled by social media feeds that implore we remain constantly connected.

But the new study, published in *Current Research in Behavioral Sciences*, found FOMO has more ancient roots.

"Among American adults, we found that higher levels of FOMO were associated with a greater desire to seek out short-term sex partners," co-author Adam C. Davis wrote.

In order to test that claim, the academic enlisted 327 heterosexual American adults aged between 19 and 60.

"Heightened expression of FOMO was related to short-term mating effort in the form of greater unrestricted sociosexual behaviour and desires," they concluded.

## # HOT 'N' HORNY

**S**TUNNING Holly Gibbons knows what she likes in the bedroom – and even has a list of naughty sexual positions she can't get enough of!

The Brighton belle said her favourite way to bonk is in the reverse cowgirl position, closely followed by a shag doing doggy-style.

Talking about reverse cowgirl, Holly explained: "It totally works by hitting the right spot to help me climax.

"I think it's good for blokes, too – mainly because it's a bit like doggy for them but they can lie down.

"My second fave is doggy style – it just feels so animalistic and naughty!"

And the 32E blonde bombshell has a secret trick for fellas who are keen to drive her crazy in bed.

She added: "It drives me mad when my fella blindfolds me and then slowly kisses all the way down my body.

"It's really frustrating – but in a good way – and I always go crazy for him!"

# holly GIBBONS



**M**  
**Sp**  
ALWAYS  
OF THE



**MIDWEEK Sport**  
HOME  
TOPLESS  
BABES

**Busty blonde  
worked as a  
bikini model**

# FILM STAR 'SHAGGED TEEN LAD'

By KIT JACKSON  
[news@sundaysport.co.uk](mailto:news@sundaysport.co.uk)

**A BIKINI model and actress who starred in the hit horror film *Wolf Creek* has been arrested for allegedly sexually abusing a teenage boy.**

Megan Skye Blancada, a young mum and model, appeared at Adelaide Magistrates' Court charged with the sexual abuse of a boy under the age of 16 and possession of child exploitation material.

Police claim her offending occurred between July 30, 2021, and November 6, 2023, in Adelaide's outer north, court documents show.

In a post from August 30 last year, she shows off a Jadore dress and writes: "Attending a red carpet event in Sydney, definitely in a need of a dress from @dressforanight and they did not disappoint."

### Novel

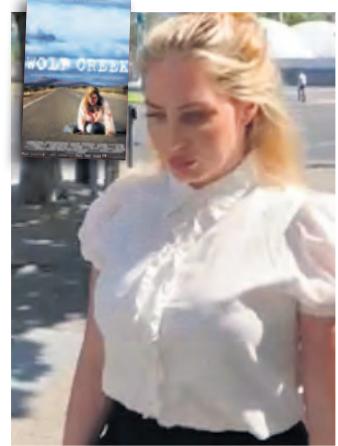
Ms Blancada claims to have modelled for Mitsubishi and Bank SA and is the author of a novel called *Shadow Hunters: Shadows in the Wall*.

In her online profile, she also says she "likes to keep her private life to herself".

Defence lawyer Andrew Graham told Magistrate Simon Smart his client would make a guilty plea offer to the prosecution.



**DUE BACK  
IN COURT:  
Megan  
Blancada**



"My client will plead guilty to unlawful sexual intercourse and two indecent assaults," he said.

The police charged Ms Blancada with knowingly possessing child exploitation material after seizing her mobile phone following her arrest back in November.

Negotiations between the defence and prosecution are continuing and Mr Smart adjourned Ms Blancada's case until May for answer charges.

Ms Blancada will return to court to answer the charges at that time.

**Governor sorry  
for nuke threat**

**THE Governor of New York State has apologised for threatening to NUKE Canada.**

Kathy Hochul has apologised for remarks she made at a Jewish philanthropy event, which implied Israel is justified to level Gaza following Hamas's October 7 raid on the Jewish state.

Speaking at the United Jewish Appeal-Federation of New York's event in Manhattan, Hochul called out Hamas as a terrorist group that "must be stopped" and then tried to make an analogy by using Canada and her home city of Buffalo.

"If Canada someday ever attacked Buffalo, I'm sorry, my friends, there would be no Canada the next day," Hochul said.

**JUDGE FACES 40YRS  
AFTER SHOOTING EX**

**A JUDGE shot her ex-boyfriend in the head while he slept before she tried convincing him that he shot himself as he lay blinded in one eye.**

Judge Sonya McKnight, 57 (below), was charged with attempted murder and aggravated assault for shooting Michael McCoy in his Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, home.

Susquehanna Township Police wrote in the arrest report that McCoy, 54, tried "numerous times" to end his one-year relationship with

McKnight, as well as trying to get her to move out of his home before she allegedly attempted to kill him.

McCoy had returned home from the pub to find McKnight relaxing on his sofa in her pyjamas and told her to leave.

Sometime later, he was awoken by a "massive head pain" and was blind.

McKnight, who faces up to 40 years in prison, has been suspended as a judge in Dauphin County.





Jailbird took £1m of cars to get home

A MAN was released from prison and promptly stole a truck towing £1million worth of new cars – because he needed a ride home. *Inside Wall Street*

Isaiah Walker, 23  
(above), of Lawton,  
Oklahoma, stopped to  
talk with a truck driver

at a Willcox creek dinner at the Willcox Loves Struck Stop in Arizona and " lulled him into a sense of security" before throwing him out of the cab, the Cochise County Sheriff's Office said.

Walker then took off in the vehicle, along with 10 Chevrolet C8 Corvettes.

Cops eventually saw the stolen truck and tried to pull it over, but Walker refused to stop before speeding off.

After being taken into custody, Walker said the Corvettes "were not the reason" he stole the truck, telling cops he needed it to get home from jail.

it to get home from jail. Walker was booked into the Cochise County Jail and faces multiple charges.

## STRIFE SWAPPING

**TEACHER** *Sarah Allen, 47, landed in hot water after boasting online that her school in Brooklyn, New York, is "cool" — because many parents are swingers.*



# WE'RE MAD FOR PIGTAILS...

**MIDWEEK Sport**  
5-PAGE SPECIAL

# PLAITS AMAZING!

By OLIVIA CHEETHAM  
[news@sundaysport.co.uk](mailto:news@sundaysport.co.uk)

## PLAITS, braids or pigtails...

Call it what you want, but women love to get knotted – their hair, that is.

The plaited look was recently championed by Queen Mum of Pop Madonna and since then, stylists claimed that ladies are loving the braided look.

In fact, experts said that it's now the top style demanded by fashion-conscious ladies in salons up and down the country.

### Bumming

And fellas love the style on their womenfolk, too – reporting that they like to hold on to pigtails while delivering a firm-yet-gentle bumming to their sex partners.

As you know, *The Midweek Sport* is always number one for fashion, so today we deliver FIVE pages of ladies with braids.

And if you look closely, you'll spot that some of them have their big busters out, too...

**JORDAN PRYCE,  
32FF, FROM  
HAMMERSMITH,  
WEST LONDON**



**KYLIE  
MINOGUE**



**GEORGIA  
HARRISON**



**0983 9190 461**  
18+ BABES  
46+ FETISH  
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EMILY  
KNIGHT



**MIDWEEK Sport**  
**5-PAGE  
SPECIAL**

# PLAITS AMAZING!

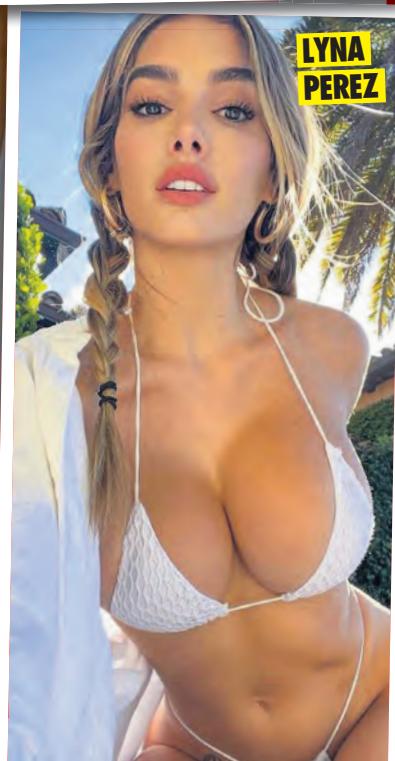
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**MIDWEEK  
Sport**  
**5-PAGE  
SPECIAL**

# **PLAITS AMAZING!**





## #MY SEX FANTASY

**'I also love filming us doing the reverse cowgirl'**

**I GET such a thrill from making racy sex tapes with my boyfriend.**

It makes me feel like a porn star and brings out the exhibitionist in me.

Nothing makes me feel hornier than getting carried away and knowing the record button is on.

I have my camera hooked up to my 60-inch TV on my bedroom wall and while we're doing it we watch it in real time.

When I do it doggy style I place the phone in between our legs because I love to see my man's cock slamming in and out of my wet pussy.

The camera normally picks up his balls banging against me and then the cum dripping out of me, too!

I also love filming me doing the reverse cowgirl and catching my boobies bouncing up and down.

It also gives a nice view of his cock pounding me.

I really love that!

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**MIDWEEK**  
**Sport**  
ALWAYS HOME  
OF TOPLESS  
BABES



**S**EXY Saskia Jade has been gripped by the BBC cop drama *The Gold* and binged the entire series on iPlayer. The 32C cracker, from Camberwell in south London, said: "I know that every other TV show on the telly is a police drama but this one is a bit different. "If you've not seen it, the series is based on the police investigation into the infamous robbery at the Brinks-Mat

depot near Heathrow in 1983. "I've read that there is some upset from members of the public that gangster Kenneth Noye was portrayed in it as a kind of Robin Hood figure, and a bit of a Del Boy. "And I can understand that, as his form suggests, he was a bad 'un. "But Hugh Bonneville is very good as the lead detective in it."

**J**

#HOT 'N' HORNY



saskia  
ADE

# JUSTIN DUNN'S ROOM 101



WHAT'S ANNOYING  
HIM THIS WEEK?

**The biggest little  
joke in  
Britain!**



HE KHAN  
DO ONE:  
Mayor  
Sadiq

**ONLY Fools and Horses** is rightly up there as one of Britain's comedy greats.

It jostles along high up in opinion polls with my favourite, *Fawlty Towers*, but that's not bad company to keep.

We've all got our go-to make-me-laugh or warm or fuzzy shows.

Until Matthew Perry passed away last year, the missus would go direct to *Friends* jail, without passing go, every single day of the week.

When I'm feeling shit, I'll find just about anything with the late Sean Lock in it, because whatever he says, and whoever he says it about, will dredge up a smile.

Even if it's strange that that smile is coming from somewhere literally beyond the grave.

But we all have performances we endlessly revisit because we know we're going to laugh.

*Men Behaving Badly*'s endless attempts at trying and largely failing to get women into bed while absolutely leathered.

### Greatest

*Still Game*, the still-fantastic Scottish sitcom about two old boys and their mostly old pals trying to navigate the last stages of life via their Clansman local, the bookies, and Navid's local shop with his grumpy missus and fabulously nosy cleaner, Isa.

All huge, accomplished shows that garner laughs years after we first learned the punchlines.

But are any of them as funny as the greatest comedian this country has EVER had?

Young neds and gentlemen, I present to you the joker's joker, the comedian's comedian, the chortler's chortler—the man who puts the "guff" into guffaw.

Yes—lights, drumroll—it is the one, the ONLY—trumpet fanfare—Sadiq..... KHAN!

Da, da, da, DAAAAAAH!

Yes, the hilarious Sadiq Khan, Mayor of London (if he hadn't reminded you of that lately—probably Starmer was interrupting, saying he was once Director of Public Prosecutions and his dad a toolmaker), all five and a half whole tiny inches of the wee bastard.

A man of such talent, wisdom and furious public onanism, his gelled quiff a-quiver as he teeters on his tip toes next to those other celebrity

giants Tom Cruise, Simon Cowell, diddy David Hamilton, and Paul Rudd in *Ant-Man*.

Now, if you're in London reading this, there's every chance you might have just put your fist through this page.

Maybe you're trying to get a doctor's appointment or a hospital bed.

Because you're on the floor bleeding out, another victim stabbed on the capital's lawless, knife-saturated streets.

Or stood on a train platform, numbly staring, as all trains are cancelled, again, because the drivers are only on £70 grand a year, and want more, and you're just wanting to cry.

But never fear. Because Sadiq is here.

A man with so many shits and giggles up his cufflinks, open-collared, tailored white shirts, that he makes Lee Mack sound stupid.

### Drone

A pintsize prat with a giant-sized ego who tootles around London in a gangster-style cortège of blacked-out 4x4s while lecturing and fining Londoners over their use of cars.

A miniature monologue whose disastrous eight years of rule in the capital was celebrated—by himself, at your expense—with a special drone "firework" display for, well, him, on New Year's Eve.

And now he's changed the names of London's overland rail lines to something like Milk, Milk, Lemonade, Round The Back, Chocolate's Made. Or whatever.

The man is OBSESSED with being in the papers.

Just not so much on doing any of that actual sorting-shit-out "mayor" stuff, though.

Lubbly, jubbly, eh, Rodders?

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**Mum, 82, left to die in own son's house of horrors**

A MAN has been charged with murder after his elderly mother died from septic shock that was likely brought on by the squalid conditions in which the pair lived.

Authorities charged Richard Towers, of Santa Ana, California, with felony murder and inflicting injury on an elder adult – three weeks after his 82-year-old mum died.

Authorities had rushed the woman to hospital after Towers called 911 and said she wouldn't wake up.

#### Sores

Paramedics found her with severe wounds on her body that they later said "would have taken weeks to develop" – including sores so deep it had exposed the her hipbone, the Orange County District Attorney's Office said.

Urine and faeces were all over the floors of Towers's home, there was no running water at the property, and cockroaches and other bugs had made a hotel out of the fridge where the old woman kept her insulin.

"The cruelty involved to allow her to suffer in excruciating pain is unconscionable," attorney Todd Spitzer said.

## Woman slept with rotting bro for 5yrs

A WOMAN spent up to five years sleeping next to her brother's rotting corpse in a rat-infested and rubbish-strewn house in a posh suburb.

The woman, aged in her 70s, lived with the corpse in her home in Geelong, Melbourne, Australia.

Forensic officers in biohazard suits were forced to wade through floor-to-ceiling rubbish, rats, dead possums and human faeces to reach the skeleton.

Residents along the leafy street complained about the stinking house to several government departments for years, but their objections fell on deaf ears.

The man was last seen alive in 2018 by locals.

The woman was a Department of Families, Fairness and Housing tenant, prompting questions about how the body could have lay undiscovered for so long.

A neighbour said: "There was always a smell but we thought it was the piles of rubbish."

A DFFH spokesperson said: "Welfare checks had been conducted at the property since 2021. This is a tragic incident."

## After making tear-jerker speech at awards bash...



# BAFTA SAM SHOWS OFF HER GONGS

**HEART-FELT:**  
Sam making acceptance speech at the BAFTAs



By CLAIRE HARRISON  
[news.sundaysport.co.uk](http://news.sundaysport.co.uk)

**ACTRESS** Samantha Morton has dedicated her BAFTA Fellowship "to every child in care, or who has been in care".

The thesp and director, 46, collected the film awards' highest accolade from producer David Heyman, who she worked with on the hit *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*.

Visibly emotional on stage, Sam said: "This is nothing short of a miracle."

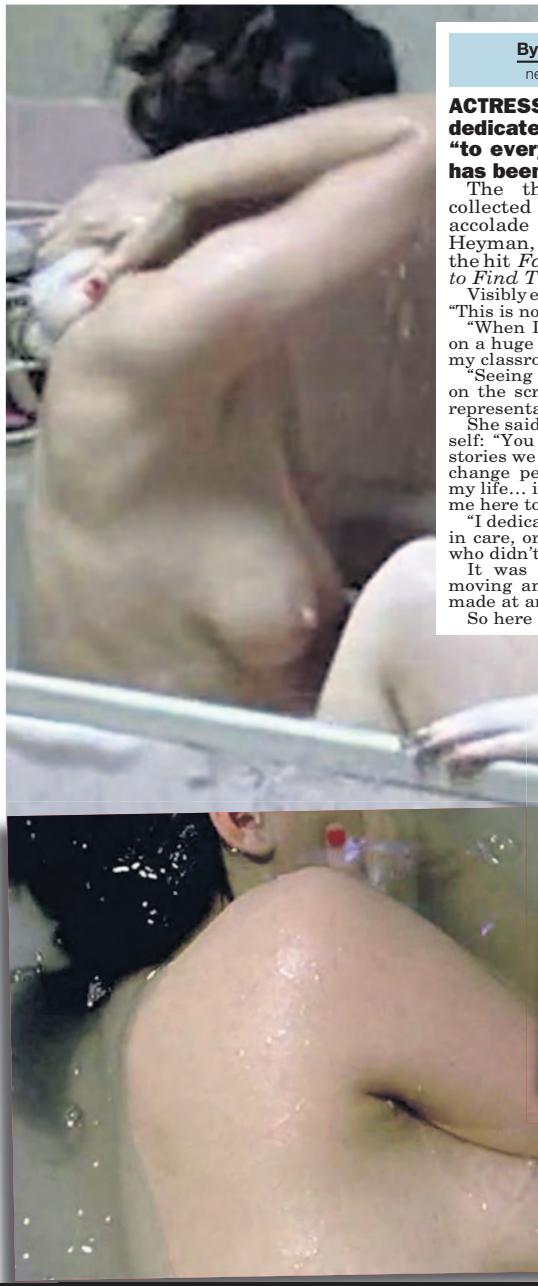
"When I first saw Ken Loach's *Kes* on a huge telly that was wheeled into my classroom I was forever changed. "Seeing poverty and people like me on the screen, I recognised myself – representation matters."

She said she would tell her younger self: "You matter, don't give up, the stories we tell, they have the power to change people's lives. Film changed my life... it transformed me and it led me here today."

"I dedicate this award to every child in care, or who has been in care and who didn't survive."

It was one of the most genuine, moving and heart-felt speeches ever made at an awards bash...

So here are her bare boobs.



# POS



# TER BABE OF THE MONTH

**emily  
SHAW**  
30E, from Ascot, Surrey



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# THE WORLD FAMOUS AGONY Page

**Dear Kelly,**

I HAVE, over the years, read a number of letters from your readers, who say that they use fruit and vegetables in all sorts of ways during sex.

It came as a bit of a revelation to me, as I'd always been pretty "straight" when it came to sex with the wife.

But talking to the missus the other night we decided we'd like to spice up our bedroom activities.

I was wondering if you could advise me whether organic fruit and veg is better than the run-of-the-mill stuff?

RC, Glasgow

**Kelly says...**

**ANY** fruit or veg is OK, but make sure you cover it with a condom and wash it afterwards.

**Dear Kelly,**

I'M a 25-year-old girl and have been with my boyfriend, 22, for seven months.

We have an active sex life but there is just one problem – I cannot climax.

We literally have sex for two hours at a time and nothing ever happens for me.

It's frustrating me but I think it's frustrating him more. I don't know what to suggest and I have never ever had this problem in the past.

Can you please help?

CG, Somerset

**Kelly says...**

TRY introducing sex toys into the bedroom – get him to stimulate your clit with one during normal penetration.

**Oh lord, my romps with another man are good**

**Dear Kelly,**

I'M having an affair with my landlord – he's 61 and I'm 28.

I'm married to a real loser who is a total wimp in bed.

He can't keep a job, leaves the flat in a mess and doesn't take me out anywhere, but goes out and gets pissed with his mates most nights.

I've known that my landlord has fancied me for some time as he's always nice to me and always compliments me on how I look.

I like to wear mini skirts with either high heels or knee-high boots.

I had been looking for a part-time job, but with no luck, until my landlord asked if I'd like to work for him as his personal assistant.

I accepted his offer and asked if I'd be sitting on his lap taking "dick-tation".

He just smiled and put his hand on my leg.

He said he wanted to f\*\*k me and we went back to his place.

We went to his bedroom and he took my clothes off and asked me to suck on his throbbing cock.

I gobbled him until his juice exploded down my throat.

He then had me on the bed, pounding me from behind – which was really great.

It was just the type of sex I like, and such a contrast to my deadbeat husband's weak efforts in bed.

He's been screwing me virtually every day and now wants me to move in with him.

What should do?

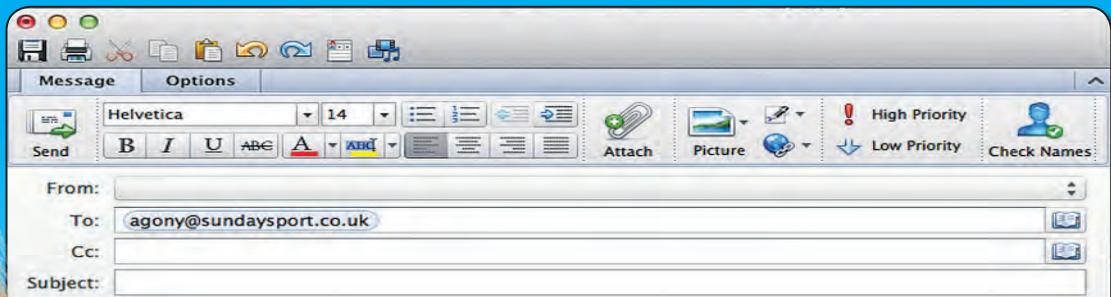
LJ, Glasgow

**Kelly says...**

**IF** this guy makes you happy then why not?

**AGONY IS BROUGHT TO YOU IN ASSOCIATION**

**WELCOME to the World famous Sport Agony page! No other newspaper's agony aunts can offer the level of advice – or experience – than our own Agony Angels! This week KELLY MCGREGOR has been reading through your letters. And here's her advice for you...**



# **Boozer loser hubby forces me to cheat!**

**Dear Kelly,**

**ME and my husband have been married for nearly 12 years.**

But like so many other marriages, we seem to have hit a bit of a stale patch recently.

He's happy going to the pub with his mates, while I like to go out to clubs.

One Saturday night he'd gone for a drink at the pub as usual and I met my pals for our weekly knees-up.

We went to a few new gin places bars and by the time we got to a nightclub I was pretty tipsy.

I was standing at the bar when there was a tap on my shoulder and I turned to see my hubby next to me.

He was with his best mate and the pair of them looked rattled.

It seems they'd had a skinful in the pub and had taken a cab into town.

My fella was knocking back the whisky and I could tell he would soon collapse.

And sure enough he did – right onto a table of drinks.

A couple of bouncers rushed over and carried him out of the club as his pal staggered behind them.

That was that, I thought, but then I saw his mate walking back towards me.

He said he'd put my hubby into a taxi and told the driver to see him into our

house.

So I took him to a quiet corner in case the bouncers saw him.

He sat with his head in his hands for a while and seemed to sober up.

Then we danced when the DJ played some slower numbers.

He began to feel my bottom and I didn't object.

In fact, I grabbed his stiffening manhood through his trousers.

After a while we left and took a cab to his place where we stripped off.

I gasped as he thrust his huge cock into me – he was like a wild stallion compared to my husband.

Seconds later I screamed as I had my first orgasm.

But that was just the beginning of a sizzling sex session that lasted almost until dawn.

Then it was time to go back to my boring husband.

However, I've been seeing his mate regularly and I intend to go on doing so.

Am I being ridiculous?

DM, Leics

**Kelly says...**

**IF your fella wants to act like a prick, you carry on having a good time.**

**Dear Kelly,**

**I'VE been married for two years and there's nothing I like more than humiliating my hubby.**

**He lives his life just to serve and obey me, which suits me just fine.**

**And the more heartless and bitchy I am, the more he worships me.**

**Although I use him sexually, I rarely let him f\*\*k me fully.**

**I am more than satisfied in the bedroom and often order him to lick me out for hours on end – climaxing several times in a session, and usually drenching him in the process.**

**However, I'm now wondering how our future relationship will develop.**

**Do you think we should seek counselling, because I know this is not an entirely "natural" sort of behaviour?**

FR, Notts

**Kelly says...**

**IF he's not complaining, then carry on. But let him have a leg-over a bit more often.**

**Dear Kelly,**

**I'M a student and to earn extra cash I'm working in a bank.**

**It's quite boring work but one of the mortgage advisors is really fit.**

**She's 38, and I'm 21.**

**She's got blonde hair, a good body and lovely long legs.**

**For a couple of weeks we've been going to a nearby bar for our lunch.**

**As the days went on she started telling me how crap her husband is in bed and what type of sex she likes.**

**Then I asked if she fancied going for a drink one evening.**

**She said 'yes' and as I was giving her a lift home afterwards I parked up and in an instant she had her gob around my knob.**

**Needless to say it was a short step to me giving her one on the back seat.**

**Since then we've had loads of steamy sessions.**

**She's a very horny lady and now wants to leave her husband, to be with me.**

**I don't want to give up my single ways but I want to keep on shagging her.**

**Any advice?**

**KL, Teesside**

**Kelly says...**

**BE honest with her.**

**DO YOU HAVE A SEX PROBLEM?**

**EMAIL:**

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**Mail: Agony, Sunday**

**Sport, 860 Chester Road,  
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# HOT 'N' HORNY

**Alexis Jones**

**A**WESOME Alexis Jones is delighted that spring seems to be on the way.

The 30G cracker from Maidstone in Kent said: "I was out at the weekend and the daffs have started to come up, which is always a good sign.

"The guy I was with has a bit of spring in his step, if you get my drift, because he wanted to get down to it in the woods.

"I said NO WAY! The sun may have been shining but it's still only February. I don't spread my legs outdoors until May at the earliest!"



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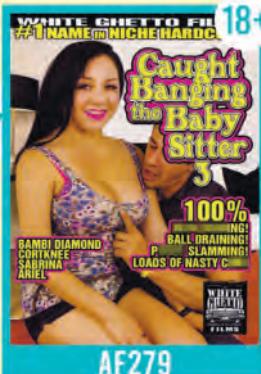


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# PUZZLES

## CROSSWORD

### ACROSS

5. Skin irritation (4)
7. Champion's opponent (10)
8. Cause the death of (4)
10. Counterpart (4)
12. — Stubbs, actress (3)
13. Yeast (6)
16. Any verse or piece of poetry (5)
18. Weir (3)
20. Roster (4)
21. House type (4)
22. High mountain (3)
24. Winter sportsman (5)
25. Painter (6)
26. Intestine (3)
27. Accept (4)
29. Jolt (4)
33. Feel or undergo (10)
34. Compass point (4)

### DOWN

1. Female person or animal (3)
2. Gusted (4)
3. Intend (4)
4. Ovum (3)
5. Irritate, vex (3)
6. Punctuation mark (5)
9. Rush (5)
10. Deposit on the teeth (6)
11. Striping (3)
13. Minimum (5)
14. Urn (4)
15. Come into view (6)
17. Stop (4)
19. Circumference (5)
23. Mine (3)
25. Entertain (5)
27. Mountain lake (4)
28. Retain (4)
30. Favourite (3)
31. Secret agent (3)
32. Expert (3)

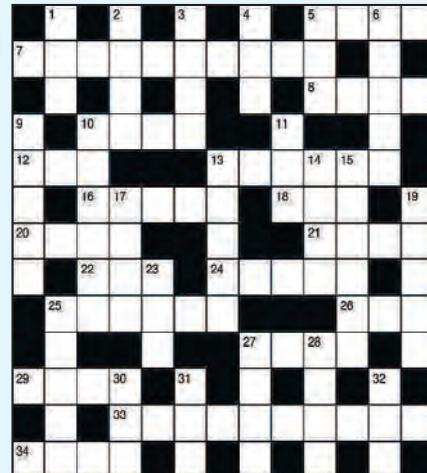
1. **WHAT** will be banned from schools throughout the day, including break times, in a bid to cut down on pupil disruption and improve behaviour?  
 a) Vapes  
 b) Sex with teachers  
 c) Illegal drugs  
 d) Mobile phones

2. **VIEWERS** of the BAFTAs were left fuming as which celeb referred to "soccer" instead of "football" as they presented a gong at Sunday night's event?  
 a) David Beckham  
 b) Michael J Fox  
 c) David Tennant  
 d) Loyd Grossman

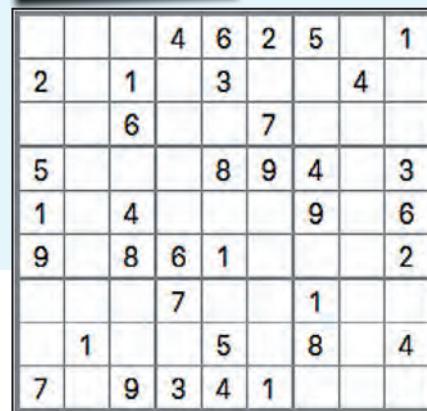
3. **TONY** Mowbray has suddenly stepped down as manager of which football club 'to seek medical treatment', just a month after he replaced Wayne Rooney?  
 a) Wolves  
 b) Coventry City  
 c) Birmingham City  
 d) Aston Villa

4. **Ofcom** is investigating which TV news channel over a live broadcast featuring PM Rishi Sunak after more than 500 people complained about a lack of impartiality?  
 a) Sky News  
 b) GB News  
 c) BBC News  
 d) Al Jazeera

5. **WHICH** snooker star says he will no longer try



## SPORTDUKO



## LET'S GET QUIZICAL!

for 147 maximum score breaks in competitions because the £40k prize money "isn't worth it"?

- Judd Trump
- Mark Allen
- Ronnie O'Sullivan
- Luca Brecel

6. **WHICH** British pop singer has reportedly been earning a staggering \$2 MILLION per show on a Las Vegas residency?

- Tom Jones
- Adele
- Ed Sheeran
- Alvin Stardust

7. **WHICH** 'comedianne' and actress has released new pictures proudly showing off her growing baby bump?

- Emily Atack
- Sara Pascoe
- Katherine Ryan
- Jo Brand

10. **WHICH** singer has admitted performing her old hits on stage makes her "want to puke in my own mouth"?

- Gwen Stefani
- Madonna
- Dua Lipa
- Lulu

# # HOT 'N' HORNY



## ANSWERS

8 - B, 9 - A, 10 - A,	4 - B, 5 - C, 6 - B, 7 - A,
QUI: 1-D, 2-A, 3-C,	
ANSWERS	
1. She: 2. Below	3. Mean: 4. Eggs: 5. Rich
2. 7 3 1 6 2 5 9 1	3. Crossword: 5. Tech: 4. 7 8 9 3 4 1 2 6 5
4. 7 3 1 6 2 5 9 1	6. 7 8 9 5 6 8 7 4
5. 7 3 1 6 2 5 9 1	34. West: 31. Spy: 32. Pet: 30. Pet: 29. Bump: 33. Experience: 28. Keep: 27. Team: 26. Skier: 25. Artist: 25. Artist: 24. Skier: 22. Art: 23. Artist: 23. Artist: 22. Art: 21. Artist: 20. Rota: 19. Gift: 18. Gift: 17. Gift: 16. Rhymer: 15. Emerges: 14. West: 13. Leaves: 12. Una: 11. Lad: 10. Twin: 12. Una: 9. Honey: 8. Killi: 7. Challenge: 8. Killi: 6. Colour: 5. Honey: 4. Mean: 3. Eggs: 2. Below: 1. She: 2. Below

P A R



**G**UESS what pretty Paris got for a Valentine's gift...  
That's right, a new undies set!  
But the thing is, she doesn't know who sent them to her.  
The 32G cracker, from Halifax in West Yorks, said: "They came in the post with a lovely card, but I did not recognise the handwriting on the card or envelope.  
"I literally have no idea who sent them, but I'm thrilled.  
"Whoever sent them will find out just how thrilled I am when I discover who they are – and treat them to some very naughty fun!"



IS

**D**ISHY Dolly Fox loves having her huge boobs fondled – by women!

The huge-knocker model said: "Men can get a bit overexcited by my huge boobies and start to maul them – like they're trying to knead bread."

"That's OK in its own way, but I also love the gentle touch of another woman – making my nipples hard and then using them to rub my throbbing clit on."

"It's making me wet, just thinking about it..."

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ME!  
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# Selfies

## WHERE REAL BABES SNAP THEMSELVES!

THIS is it...the only newspaper feature where **REAL BABES** show their boobs!

Self-shooting topless pics is a craze that's sweeping the country – but you don't need a swanky new smartphone to enjoy 'em—as we'll be printing the pick of the snaps **EVERY week!**



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# SHOW ME THE HONEY!

**WELCOME** to interactive *Midweek Sport* – where **YOU** get to choose the stunnas appearing on these pages!

That's right fellas, we publish sexy snaps of the babes you most want to see – TOPLESS or even NAKED.

Every Wednesday, *Show Me The Honey* features the cute curves of the glamour girls you're clamouring for. This service – UNIQUE to British newspapers – is totally FREE!

Just drop us an email to [request@sundaysport.co.uk](mailto:request@sundaysport.co.uk) telling us why you want to see your favourite girl, then sit back and let us do the rest.

## DEE IVENTS

DRIVER Mike Sutcliffe is constantly bowled over by the timeless sexiness of glamour veteran Dee Ivens.

Mike, 59, from Plymouth, says Essex babe Dee gets him all in a tizz and he can't think straight when he catches a glimpse of her 34Ds.

Well-horny Mike said: "Dee is a thing of real beauty, I regularly flick through the Sport before I get down to work and whenever I catch a glimpse of her it sends me all to pieces."





ALL THE LATEST FROM THE INDIA

# BAZBALL, ISHERE, TO STAY!

## Lions coach defends attacking approach

**BRENDON McCULLUM** insists England's best chance of turning the tide in India is to keep trusting in their methods as he resists calls to adapt despite a humbling defeat in Rajkot.

Michael Vaughan described a 434-run loss in the third Test – their heaviest since 1934 – as a “wake-up call”, while Nasser Hussain said “ tweaks” to the ‘Bazball’ approach are a must.

The suggestions of two former England captains are likely to fall on deaf ears as McCullum sticks to his guns despite going 2-1 down in a five-match series which resumes in Ranchi on Friday.

McCullum, who has won 14 of 21 Tests as England head coach after taking charge of a team triumphant in one of their preceding 17, accepts criticism will come his way but he and skipper Ben Stokes feel that putting limitations in place can only have a disruptive effect.

“The positivity and confidence

By NED TRUEMAN

within the environment needs to remain,” McCullum said. “If we do that we give ourselves the best opportunity with the talent we possess to bounce back.

“That messaging that comes from myself and the skipper will never change regardless of how we're going.

“I don't want our guys to ever doubt themselves otherwise we go back to where it was beforehand.

### Entertain

“When you start retreating a little bit on what you've done before and what you've said you're trying to achieve, you're literally living and dying every day by your results and that's not what this team is about.

“This team is about trying to keep pushing the game forward, to try and entertain and ultimately win.

“It didn't work this time around but you can only do that by providing an environment where

the guys feel safe and feel they can take on the world.”

Joe Root spilled a catch in the first innings of the Test that would have left India 47 for four before they made 445 and was then out to a reverse ramp as England crumbled from 224 for two to 319 all out, with the tourists out of the game from that point on.

Root, left nursing a sore thumb that is not thought to be serious, is yet to reach 30 in this series, while fellow Yorkshireman Jonny Bairstow is also struggling, out for four and four in recent days.

The pair average around 50 under Stokes and McCullum, with Bairstow setting the template for the era in the summer of 2022 with four hundreds in six Tests at a jaw-dropping strike-rate of 96.59.

“Jonny's not scored the volume of runs he would have wanted and a couple of times he's got out kind of mildly for someone who's got the power game he's got,” McCullum said.

“I don't have concerns over him. I'm not blind but he's done so well for us. We know that a top-quality

Jonny Bairstow is as good as anyone in any conditions so we've got to keep on giving him confidence and block out a lot of the external noise.

“Joe will be fine. It's a great compliment to be in a funk after three Test matches. He just has to keep backing himself and wait for the luck to turn his way.

“The fact he's missed out in three Tests, does that surely not just mean that he's closer to getting a big score? It's Joe Root, crikey. I mean, seriously? The law of averages suggests he'll fill his boots in the next two Tests.”

### Clever

Stokes has opened the door to resuming bowling competitively for the first time since last summer's Ashes although McCullum admitted he may have a role to play in reining him in.

“Ben is clever,” McCullum added. “He won't bowl unless he thinks he's legitimately able to bowl. The problem would be if he starts getting into a spell and then he can't get out of the spell.

“If he does get that bit between

his teeth, let's see where the danger lies and try and pull him away from it. But it's good that he's actually getting into a state where he thinks he might bowl.”

■AFTER falling 2-1 down in the five-Test series, there have been suggestions far and wide that England's approach, dubbed ‘Bazball’ in a nod to McCullum's nickname, needs to be refined.

Here, *Midweek Sport* looks at whether England need to overhaul their philosophy.

### WHAT IS BAZBALL?

The first thing to know is McCullum himself dislikes the word, which he feels oversimplifies what he and the rest of the backroom team are trying to do. Most cricket fans associate the term with an attacking style, especially when batting.

But England and McCullum stress what they are trying to do is instil positivity and confidence into their players, taking the fear of doubt and failure away so they can achieve their maximum potential.

The results have yielded 14



# IA v ENGLAND CRICKET



ATTACKING TEAM: Ben Stokes and Brendon McCullum will keep going

wins from 21 Tests after just a single victory in 17 previous attempts, while near enough every match has been a blockbuster occasion.

#### WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?

They are perhaps a little too impulsive and occasionally guilty of overlooking the match situation.

In response to 445, England were on 224 for two inside 40 overs with Ben Duckett shellacking a depleted India attack – Ravichandran Ashwin briefly left the Test to tend to a family matter – to all parts.

But the out-of-touch Joe Root took what seemed an unnecessary gamble in the first few minutes of day three with a reverse ramp, England collapsed to 319 all out and India never looked back.

There was a near-identical missed chance against Australia at Lord's last year which helped Pat Cummins' side retain the Ashes.

It appears England are not learning from their mistakes and harsh lessons have followed.

#### WHAT HAS BEEN THE REACTION?

England have come in for widespread criticism on social media. Ashes 2005-winning captain Michael Vaughan wrote on X that this latest setback should act as "wake-up call". Nasser Hussain, another former England skipper, said in the Daily Mail that "tweaks" to their philosophy should be considered, adding: "Bazball is not attack, attack, attack. Occasionally, you must absorb pressure."

#### WILL ENGLAND PAY ANY HEED?

There is no need to chuck the baby out with the bathwater. It is worth remembering that India have not lost a Test series at home since 2012.

The sides led by Sir Alastair Cook in 2016 and Joe Root in 2021 when arriving with more orthodox impulses had forgettable tours; indeed, England have arguably done better than the last two visits already.

It was barely three weeks ago that England engineered one of the finest wins in their history

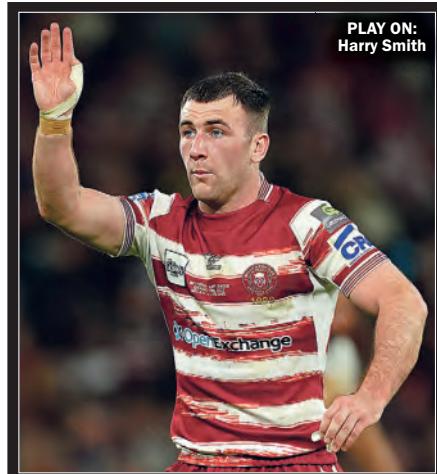
in Hyderabad and it appears England fans may have to get used to taking the rough with the smooth.

McCullum gave the strongest indication there would be no change of tack, saying: "The positivity and confidence in the environment needs to remain."

#### SO, MORE OF THE SAME, THEN?

On the surface, England present a bullish outlook with little regard for outside noise. It is telling that whoever speaks after play is adamant that England are happy to chase down any score in the fourth innings – they have been successful in eight of a dozen attempts.

But all may not be as it seems, for after the Lord's debacle last year, England knuckled down, struck the right balance and were the better team for the last three Tests. Conditions may be completely different now as was then but there is reason for hope as the sides head for Ranchi and the penultimate Test, starting on Friday.



PLAY ON:  
Harry Smith

## Smith clear to take on Panthers

By PAUL THOMAS

HARRY Smith is free to feature in Wigan's World Club Challenge clash with Penrith after escaping a ban for his tip-tackle on Castleford's Luke Hooley in Friday night's Betfred Super League opener.

The 24-year-old was sent to the sin bin following the incident but received a Grade B charge because the RFL's match review panel found that "the unnatural actions of the tackled player significantly contributed to the outcome of the tackle".

Grade B charges generally incur a one-match ban, but previous conduct can provide a mitigating circumstance

and the half-back, a pivotal figure in Wigan's hopes of emulating St Helens and claiming the title next Saturday, got away with a £250 fine.

Four red and nine yellow cards were issued in the opening round of Super League fixtures, with three players given Grade E charges and referred to tribunals which could rule them out for between four to six games.

Hull's Franklin Pele, Castleford's Liam Watts and Catalans' Michael McIlorum were all sent off for head contact in their respective matches.

However, RFL chiefs insist the eye-catching number of sanctions were not unduly affected by new tackle rule protocols which came into play ahead of the new campaign. Robert Hicks,



SENT OFF: Franklin Pele

the RFL's director of operations and legal, said:

"Of the 13 cards shown, 10 of the incidents would have led to a card being shown under the framework that applied in 2023."

"It was a highly successful opening round of Betfred Super League fixtures, and it is right that the focus is already turning to the second round of matches, and also the Betfred World Club Challenge."

Besides Watts, Castleford also saw Charbel Tasipale handed a one-match ban for a grade C head contact offence, leading the club to demand an "urgent meeting" with officials over the sanctions.

"We're left a bit confused so we need to get our house in order pretty quick," said the club's director of operations Danny Wilson.

"To do that, we need some explanation of why they are graded the way they are. We've asked for an urgent meeting with the powers that be for some explanation."



CRITIC:  
Nasser Hussain

## WORLD CUP WINNER DIES

ANDREAS Brehme, who scored the winning goal for West Germany in the 1990 World Cup final, has died aged 63.

The defender scored from the penalty spot to give his country a 1-0 win over Argentina.

He played for Bayern and Kaiserslautern, winning the Bundesliga with both and also lifted the Serie A title

with Inter Milan. Bayern said the former left-back will be remembered as a "very special person".

The club posted on X: "FC Bayern is deeply shocked by the sudden death of Andreas Brehme. The German record champion is united in mourning with his relatives and friends."

# SPORT ON THE TELLY

## WEDNESDAY

- FOOTBALL: Champions League, FC Porto v Arsenal – TNT Sports 1 1900, Napoli v Barcelona – TNT Sports 2 1930, EFL Trophy, Bradford v Wycombe – Sky Sports Football and Sky Sports Main Event 1930, Europa Conference League, Gent v Maccabi Haifa – TNT Sports 3 1700.
- MOTOR RACING: Formula One, Testing – Sky F1 0650, Sky Main Event 0700, Sky F1 1155, Sky Main Event 1200.
- CRICKET: Third T20 Sri Lanka v Afghanistan – TNT Sports 1 1345.
- SNOKER: Players Championship – ITV4 1245 and 1845.
- TENNIS: The Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships – Sky Sports Tennis and Sky Main Event 1600; The Rio Open – Sky Sports Tennis and Sky Sports Main Event 2230; The Mifel Tennis Open – Sky Sports Tennis and Sky Sports Main Event 0200 (Thr).
- CYCLING: Men's UAE Tour – Eurosport 2 1030.

## THURSDAY

- FOOTBALL: Europa League, Rennes v AC Milan – TNT Sports 1 1730, Toulouse v Benfica – TNT Sports 2 1730, Roma v Feyenoord – TNT Sports 1 1945, Marseille v Shakhtar Donetsk – TNT Sports 2 1945; Serie A, Torino v Lazio – TNT Sports 4 1945.
- MOTOR RACING: Formula One, Testing – Sky Sports F1 0650, Sky Sports Main Event 0700, Sky F1 1155.
- RUGBY LEAGUE: Super League, Hull KR v Leeds Rhinos – Sky Sports Arena and Sky Sports Main Event 1930.
- DARTS: Premier League, Newcastle – Sky Sports Action 1900.
- GOLF: DP World Tour, Kenya Open – Sky Sports Golf 1000; PGA Tour, The Mexico Open – Sky Sports Golf 1500, Sky Sports Main Event 2215.
- SNOKER: Players Championship – ITV4 1245 and 1845.
- TENNIS: The Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships – Sky Sports Tennis and Sky Sports Main Event 1100; The Rio Open – Sky Sports Tennis and Sky Sports Main Event 0000 (Thr); The Mifel Tennis Open – Sky Sports Tennis and Sky Sports Main Event 0200 (Thr).
- CYCLING: Men's UAE Tour – Eurosport 2 1030.
- BASKETBALL: NBA, Dallas Mavericks v Phoenix Suns – TNT Sports 2 0030 (Thr); Golden State Warriors v Los Angeles Lakers – TNT Sports 2 0300 (Thr).

## FRIDAY

- FOOTBALL: Championship, Leeds v Leicester – Sky Sports Football and Sky Sports Main Event 1900, Women's International, England v Austria – ITV 1930, Ligue 1, Metz v Lyon – TNT Sports 2 1945, Bundesliga, Bayer Leverkusen v Mainz – Sky Sports Mix 1930, cinch Championship, Partick Thistle v Dunfermline 1945, Serie A, Bologna v Verona – TNT Sports 3 1945, Laliga, Real Sociedad v Villarreal – Viaplay Sports 1 and Laliga TV 2000.
- CRICKET: Fourth Test, India v England – TNT Sports 1 0330.
- MOTOR RACING: Formula One, Testing – Sky Sports F1 0650, Sky Sports Main Event 0700, Sky F1 1155.
- RUGBY LEAGUE: Super League, Warrington v Hull FC – Sky Sports Arena 1930, London Broncos v Catalans Dragons – Sky Sports Action 2000.
- GOLF: DP World Tour, Kenya Open – Sky Sports Golf 1000; PGA Tour, The Mexico Open – Sky Sports Golf 1500.
- SNOKER: Players Championship – ITV4 1245 and 1845.
- TENNIS: The Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships – Sky Sports Tennis and Sky Sports Main Event 1300, Qatar ExxonMobil Open – Sky Sports Tennis and Sky Sports Main Event 1700, The Rio Open – Sky Sports Tennis and Sky Sports Main Event 2230; The Mifel Tennis Open – Sky Sports Tennis and Sky Sports Main Event 0200 (Sat).
- MOTOR CYCLING: World Superbikes, Phillip Island – Eurosport 2 0145 and 0315.
- CYCLING: Men's UAE Tour – Eurosport 2 1030.
- BASKETBALL: NBA, Philadelphia 76ers v Cleveland Cavaliers – BBC Sports 1 0000 (Mon).

- One 0030 (Sat), BBC One Wales 0100 (Sat), Minnesota Timberwolves v Milwaukee Bucks – TNT Sports 2 0030 (Sat), Los Angeles Lakers v San Antonio Spurs – TNT Sports 2 0300 (Sat).

## SATURDAY

- FOOTBALL: Premier League, Bournemouth v Manchester City – Sky Sports Main Event and Sky Sports Premier League 1700, Arsenal v Newcastle – TNT Sports 1 1900; Championship, Hull v West Brom – Sky Sports Football and Sky Sports Main Event 1200, National League, Eastleigh v Bromley – TNT Sports 1 1200; Serie A, Salernitana v Monza – TNT Sports 1 1715, Genoa v Udinese – TNT Sports 2 1930; LaLiga, Granada v Valencia – Viaplay Sports 1 and LaLiga TV 1300, Alaves v Real Mallorca – Viaplay Sports 1 and LaLiga TV 1730, Almeria v Atletico Madrid – Viaplay Sports 1 and LaLiga TV 2000, Ligue 1, Strasbourg v Rennes – TNT Sports 3 2000.
- CRICKET: Fourth Test, India v England – TNT Sports 1 0330; Third T20 international, New Zealand v Australia – TNT Sports 1 2330.
- RUGBY UNION: Six Nations, Ireland v Wales – Six 1330, ITV 1415, Scotland v England – BBC One 1600.
- GOLF: DP World Tour, Kenya Open – Sky Sports Golf 0930; PGA Tour, The Mexico Open – Sky Sports Golf 1400.
- HORSE RACING: Kempton, Chepstow and Newcastle – ITV4 1300.
- RUGBY LEAGUE: Super League, Huddersfield v St Helens – Sky Arena 1725, World Club Challenge – Wigan v Penrith Panthers – BBC Two England and Sky Sports Arena 1930, Sky Sports Main Event 2000.
- SNOKER: Players Championship – ITV4 1845.
- TENNIS: The Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships – Sky Sports Tennis and Sky Sports Main Event 1500; The Rio Open – Sky Sports Tennis and Sky Sports Main Event 2230; The Mifel Tennis Open – Sky Sports Tennis and Sky Sports Main Event 0300 (Sun).
- MOTOR CYCLING: World Superbikes, Phillip Island – Eurosport 2 0145 and 0315.
- CYCLING: Men's UAE Tour – Eurosport 2 1030, Omloop Het Nieuwsblad – Eurosport 2 1245.
- Sunday February 25

## SUNDAY

- FOOTBALL: Carabao Cup final, Chelsea v Liverpool – Sky Sports Football and Sky Sports Main Event 1400, Premier League, Wolves v Sheffield United – TNT Sports 1 1200, cinch Premiership, Motherwell v Celtic – Sky Sports Football and Sky Sports Main Event 1100, Serie A, Juventus v Frosinone – TNT Sports 2 1130, Cagliari v Napoli – TNT Sports 1 1400, Lecce v Inter Milan – TNT Sports 2 1700, AC Milan v Atalanta – TNT Sports 1 1930, Ligue 1, Lens v Monaco – TNT Sports 1 1200, Nice v Clermont Foot – TNT Sports 2 1400, Paris St. Germain v Rennes – TNT Sports 1 1600, Marseille v Montpellier – TNT Sports 2 1930, LaLiga, Cadiz v Celta Vigo – TNT Sports 1 and LaLiga TV 1300, Real Betis v Athletic Bilbao – Viaplay Sports 1 and LaLiga TV 1515, Las Palmas v Osasuna – Viaplay Sports 1 and LaLiga TV 1730, Real Madrid v Sevilla – Viaplay Sports 1 and LaLiga TV 2000, Bundesliga, Eintracht Frankfurt v Wolfsburg – Sky Sports Mix 1430, Borussia Dortmund v Hoffenheim – Sky Sports Mix 1630, FC Augsburg v SC Freiburg – Sky Sports Mix 1830.

## MONDAY

- CRICKET: Fourth Test, India v England – TNT Sports 1 0330.
- MOTOR RACING: Formula One, Testing – Sky Sports F1 0650, Sky Sports Main Event 0700, Sky F1 1155.
- RUGBY LEAGUE: Super League, Warrington v Hull FC – Sky Sports Arena 1930, London Broncos v Catalans Dragons – Sky Sports Action 2000.
- GOLF: DP World Tour, Kenya Open – Sky Sports Golf 1000; PGA Tour, The Mexico Open – Sky Sports Golf 1500.
- SNOKER: Players Championship – ITV4 1245 and 1845.
- TENNIS: The Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships – Sky Sports Tennis and Sky Sports Main Event 1300, Qatar ExxonMobil Open – Sky Sports Tennis and Sky Sports Main Event 1700, The Rio Open – Sky Sports Tennis and Sky Sports Main Event 2230; The Mifel Tennis Open – Sky Sports Tennis and Sky Sports Main Event 0200 (Sat).
- MOTOR CYCLING: World Superbikes, Phillip Island – Eurosport 2 0145 and 0315.
- CYCLING: Men's UAE Tour – Eurosport 2 1030.
- BASKETBALL: NBA, Philadelphia 76ers v Cleveland Cavaliers – BBC Sports 1 0000 (Mon).

# ALL THE TOP TIPS FOR TODAY'S RACING



GALA MARCEAU

# SPEECH MAKES A BIG NOISE

By MIKE FRANCIS

## NOTABLE SPEECH can make it two wins in as many starts in the "European Road To The Kentucky Derby" Conditions Stakes at Kempton.

There is only limited form to go on in this mile affair, but Notable Speech's only outing to date resulted in a cosy maiden victory over course and distance, despite evident signs of inexperience.

He showed a nice change of gear after a slow start to pick up a couple of rivals who had gone for home earlier than him, assuming control in the final furlong to win by a length and a quarter with a touch in hand.

### Winner

It is a pretty much unthinkable leap from Sunbury in February to Churchill Downs in May but while ultimately the Godolphin runner might not be Classic calibre, he can prove it to this task.

Los Toldos can make it a double for Charlie Appleby and William Buick in the Try Our Price Boosts At Unibet Novice Stakes.

A son of Frankel out of a mile Listed winner, Los Toldos came home a six-length second on his initial



CHARLIE APPLEBY

run earlier this month, when he made a tardy start before staying on at the finish without ever looking like troubling the victor.

Eleanor Cross missed out on a first career success by just a nose last time out and compensation awaits in the Unibet Zero% Mission Fillies' Handicap.

The four-year-old was headed in the dying strides over 12 furlongs, so edging back to a mile and three furlongs might do the trick.

Alan King takes a nice type to Doncaster with Paradias in the pick in the SBK Novices' Hurdle.

A multiple winner on the

Flat, Paradias has made a seamless switch to obstacles this winter, winning at the first time of asking at Lingfield in November before bumping into Jeriko Du Reponet on his second start at Newbury at the end of December.

He tried his best to challenge the Supreme-bound winner, but eventually fell four and a half lengths short in third and a repeat of that should be good enough.

Grand Albert can get off the mark under rules in the opening SBK EBF "National Hunt" Maiden Hurdle.

A winning pointer, the £120,000 purchase was

narrowly beaten on his bumper bow before having to settle for third on his first attempt over hurdles.

The first two had a bit more experience in the bank and Grand Albert ran well enough.

Touchwoodexpress is interesting making his return in the Suzuki ATV UK Ludlow Maiden Hurdle at Ludlow.

Nigel Twiston-Davies' charge was last seen in bumper action back in September, when he ran a creditable third over a trip that was clearly far too sharp.

A winning pointer before joining the Naunton handler, Touchwoodexpress is pitched straight in over three miles on his hurdles bow.

## SELECTIONS

**DONCASTER:** 1.30 Grand Albert, 2.05 Minella Choice, 2.35 Romeo Brown, 3.05 Betterforeveryone, 3.40 Paradias, 4.15 Pilgrims King, 4.50 I Play.

**KEMPTON:** 5.00 Maurices Men, 5.30 Los Toldos, 6.00 Dynamic Talent, 6.30 Delta Legend, 7.00 NOTABLE SPEECH (NAP), 7.30 Eleanor Cross, 8.00 Elterwater, 8.30 Natacata.

**LUDLOW:** 2.25 Malaita, 2.55 Latin Verse, 3.30 Didero, 4.05 Vallis, 4.40 Touchwoodexpress, 4.40 Guillaume, 5.15 Canty Bay.

**PUNCHESTOWN:** 1.45 Lightkeeper, 2.15 Majestic Force, 2.45 Gala Marceau, 3.15 Tareze, 3.50 Kiln Time, 4.25 Shana Cloon, 4.55 Delta Force.

# Onana: United we will stand!

**LET'S STICK TOGETHER BLASTS IMPROVING REDS GOALKEEPER**

**ANDRE** Onana called for his Man United teammates to stick together in the bad moments as well as the good after they extended their winning Premier League run to four games against Luton on Sunday.

Two early goals from Rasmus Hojlund set United on the way to a 2-1 victory at Kenilworth Road, though they were made to sweat on the result after Carlton Morris pulled one back for the Hatters after 14 minutes.

Hojlund became the youngest player to score in six consecutive Premier League games, with the 21-year-old's barren spell that followed his £72million move from Atalanta seemingly now behind him.

United are within five points of fourth-place Aston Villa in the race to qualify for the Champions League.

They are unbeaten since going down 2-1 to Nottingham Forest on December 30 and have progressed to the fifth round of the FA Cup, where they face a rematch with Forest next week. Goalkeeper

**By NED TRUEMAN**

Onana, who like Hojlund has found form after being criticised for high-profile errors following his arrival at Old Trafford from Inter Milan, said togetherness will be key if the team are to maintain their good run until the end of the season.

"You know we have to be together in good and bad moments," said Onana.

"We have to help each other when things are not going good. But what we are doing now is very nice and it's the way we have to follow."

"We have to continue like this because we have done nothing. We didn't do anything spectacular. Yet now we have to continue winning games, and that is the main thing."

"We have to try to win against every opponent and especially the next game is another final for us."

■Hojlund broke Joe Willock's record and here, *Weekend Sport* puts his achievement in context.

## SIX OF THE BEST

Hojlund's scoring run began with the winner against Aston Villa on Boxing



Day. That was his first-ever Premier League goal, having failed to score in his first 14 appearances, but he has not let up since.

He opened the scoring after three minutes in a 2-2 draw with Tottenham, netted against Wolves, West Ham and in the return with Villa and then scored twice in the first seven minutes in the win over Luton.

Aged 21 years and 14 days, he is 260 days younger than Willock when he netted for Newcastle against Sheffield United in May 2021 to break

the record previously held by Romelu Lukaku.

Willock extended his streak to seven games three days later against Fulham, who will also be United's opponents on Saturday as Hojlund has the chance to break that record.

The Dane also has Manchester United's longest scoring run since Cristiano Ronaldo's first spell at the club. Marcus Rashford managed five in a row in January and February 2023 but Hojlund is the first United player to score in six consecutive league games since Ronaldo in 2008.

Willock's run, while on loan from Arsenal, earned him a permanent move to Tyneside – but in a warning that nothing can be taken for granted, he has scored only five Premier League goals in 67 games since.

## IN GOOD COMPANY

The list of the youngest players to achieve each goalscoring streak in the Premier League sees Hojlund join a high-profile group of names.

The early entries are players whose goalscoring impact came at a young age – James Vaughan and Danny

Cadamarteri failed to build on their early promise with Cadamarteri failed to build on their early promise with Romelu Lukaku.

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No player has had a scoring streak of exactly nine games, meaning Ruud van Nistelrooy holds that record as well as the 10-game mark aged 27, while Jamie Vardy was 28 when he set the league's record scoring run of 11 games for Leicester in their 2015-16 title-winning season.

## SPORT QUIZ

1. In snooker, how many shots are required to compile a maximum 147 break?
2. Tony Mowbray began his managerial career with a caretaker spell at which club?
3. In which year did Japanese golfer Hideki Matsuyama win the Masters?
4. Defender Millie Turner plays for which Women's Super League side?
5. In athletics, what was unusual about the winner and runner-up in the women's 400m in the UK Indoor Championships on Sunday?
6. Great Britain's Freya Colbert won gold in which event in the World Aquatics Championships in Doha?
7. In which year did Britain's James Hunt win the Formula One world championship?
8. Former England centre Billy Twelvetrees plays for which Championship rugby side?
9. Which team are currently bottom of Italy's Serie A?
10. How many times did Andre Agassi win the Wimbledon men's singles title?
11. Which swimmer last week claimed Britain's first world title in a women's individual event since 2011 with victory in the 200 metres butterfly in Doha?
12. England batter Ben Duckett plays for which County Championship side?
13. Who was the first overseas winner of the PDC World Darts Championship?
14. Liverpool left-back Andrew Robertson began his senior career with which Scottish club?
15. Who is captain of the England women's rugby union team?
16. Which snooker player on Saturday hit a maximum break in his Welsh Open semi-final win over John Higgins?
17. Who are the only English club to have won the Women's Champions League?
18. Jamie Murray has won how many grand slam doubles titles?
19. Great Britain's Saskia Clark and Hannah Mills won gold in which sport at the 2016 Olympics?
20. Which jockey rode Tiger Roll to consecutive Grand National successes?

ANSWERS: 1. 36; 2. Ipswich; 3. 2021; 4. Manchester United; 5. They are twins; 6. Luton and Luton Ness; 7. 400m individual medley; 8. Leevig Tedder; 9. Salomon; 10. John Stephen; 11. 22; 12. Nottinghamshire; 13. John Smith; 14. Lee Westwood; 15. Peter Phillips; 16. Paul Wylie; 17. Queen; 18. Seve Ballesteros; 19. Nicolas Anelka; 20. Davy Russell; 21. Barry Hall; 22. Steve Williams; 23. John Salter; 24. Ruud van Nistelrooy; 25. 2007; 26. 2003; 27. Michael Phelps; 28. 2007; 29. 2003; 30. 2007; 31. John Salter; 32. Lee Westwood; 33. Michael Phelps; 34. 2007; 35. Michael Phelps; 36. 2007; 37. 2007; 38. Seve Ballesteros; 39. David Higgins; 40. 2007; 41. Michael Phelps; 42. 2007; 43. Michael Phelps; 44. 2007; 45. Michael Phelps; 46. 2007; 47. Michael Phelps; 48. 2007; 49. Michael Phelps; 50. 2007; 51. Michael Phelps; 52. 2007; 53. Michael Phelps; 54. 2007; 55. Michael Phelps; 56. 2007; 57. Michael Phelps; 58. 2007; 59. Michael Phelps; 60. 2007; 61. Michael Phelps; 62. 2007; 63. Michael Phelps; 64. 2007; 65. Michael Phelps; 66. 2007; 67. Michael Phelps; 68. 2007; 69. Michael Phelps; 70. Michael Phelps; 71. Michael Phelps; 72. Michael Phelps; 73. Michael Phelps; 74. Michael Phelps; 75. Michael Phelps; 76. Michael Phelps; 77. Michael Phelps; 78. Michael Phelps; 79. Michael Phelps; 80. Michael Phelps; 81. Michael Phelps; 82. Michael Phelps; 83. Michael Phelps; 84. Michael Phelps; 85. Michael Phelps; 86. Michael Phelps; 87. Michael Phelps; 88. Michael Phelps; 89. Michael Phelps; 90. Michael Phelps; 91. Michael Phelps; 92. Michael Phelps; 93. Michael Phelps; 94. Michael Phelps; 95. Michael Phelps; 96. Michael Phelps; 97. Michael Phelps; 98. Michael Phelps; 99. Michael Phelps; 100. Michael Phelps.

RALLYING CRY: Andre Onana



## THIS WEEK IN SPORT HISTORY

- 1985: Calvin Peete, the most successful African-American to have played on the PGA Tour prior to the emergence of Tiger Woods, won his ninth PGA Tour title, the Phoenix Open.
- 1990: The Shell Trophy cricket match between Wellington and Canterbury at Christchurch produced one of the most bizarre finishes in the game's history. To force a result, Wellington's Bert Vance delivered 17 no-balls in the penultimate over. The umpire miscounted the number of legitimate balls, producing a 22-ball over in which 77 runs were scored, 69 of them by wicketkeeper Lee Germon. A further 17 were scored off the last over, and Canterbury faced the last ball needing one run for victory. The batter played a defensive stroke, unaware only one was needed and the match was drawn. Wellington still went on to win the trophy.
- 1995: Reports emerged that the Premier League Commission had found Arsenal manager George Graham guilty of taking a "bung" – a cut of the £285,000 transfer of John Jensen. Graham was sacked as Gunners boss the following day and handed a worldwide ban.
- 2000: Gillingham, playing in the FA Cup quarter-finals for the first time in their history, were thrashed 5-0 by Chelsea at Stamford Bridge.
- 2002: Former England defender Ray Wilson announced he was selling his 1966 World Cup winner's medal.
- 2007: The Premier League confirmed the application by Liverpool to register Javier Mascherano as a player had been accepted. The Argentina midfielder had been at the centre of controversy over the terms of his move to West Ham, along with countryman Carlos Tevez, at the start of the season.
- 2010: Amy Williams won gold for Great Britain in the women's skeleton at the Winter Olympics in Vancouver.
- 2014: Great Britain's women won a curling bronze medal by beating Switzerland 6-5 in the Sochi Winter Olympics.
- 2021: Naomi Osaka won the Australian Open, beating Jennifer Brady 6-4 6-3 in the women's singles final.
- 2022: Great Britain won the gold medal in the women's curling at the Beijing Winter Olympics after beating Japan 10-3 in the final.

# ALL THE LATEST AS ROY HODGSON ST EAGLES TO SOAR FOR

## Caretaker gaffer backs German to fire Palace up Premier League table

**CRYSTAL Palace caretaker manager Paddy McCarthy believes new boss Oliver Glasner will have seen plenty to excite him in the Eagles' battling 1-1 draw at Everton.**

Hours after being confirmed as the successor to veteran Roy Hodgson, who stood down earlier in the day, Glasner was watching from the stand at Goodison Park as Palace claimed a point.

McCarthy, who took charge of the side along with fellow assistant Ray Lewington after Hodgson was taken ill last week, feels the team being handed over is in fine shape.

McCarthy said: "He's seen a team with spirit and commitment to the cause. It's a good point in the right direction at a difficult place to come.

"I'm sure he will take a lot of

By PAUL THOMAS

positives from the game and I bet he can't wait to work with the lads."

Glasner, 49, inherits a side 15th in the Premier League and hoping to avoid being pulled into a relegation battle after a poor run of form.

The Austrian led Eintracht Frankfurt to Europa League glory in 2022 and McCarthy feels he is a strong appointment.

The Irishman said: "He is a manager with pedigree, a European winner. He is coming into a group I'm sure he will enjoy working with."

"It is a positive move for the club and one I'm sure will excite the fans."

McCarthy revealed he had not yet had the chance to meet Glasner and admitted he did not know if he had a future at Selhurst Park.

He said: "It was just announced as we arrived for our pre-match meal.

I've not had chance to meet him. It has been a whirlwind couple of days. I've had no communication about myself and my future."

In terms of the game, a dull encounter was lit up when Jordan Ayew broke the deadlock with a superb long-range strike after 66 minutes.

Everton responded well and their pressure eventually paid off when Amadou Onana headed an equaliser six minutes from time.

### Chances

McCarthy said: "We created some great situations, Jordan took his goal well. We knew the questions that would be asked coming here."

"I thought we defended resolutely for the majority of the game but unfortunately we couldn't hang on."

Everton manager Sean Dyche bemoaned the number of chances the hosts wasted but felt the point,

which lifted the Toffees out of the bottom three, was a valuable one.

Dyche said: "First half it looked like we were off and they were a side where the new manager was sitting in the stand. They had a bit of edge about them and they played well."

"We weren't miles off but we weren't brave enough in possession, we were too timid, played backwards too much."

"They scored a good goal, a clean strike, but I thought the mentality then was good to get on the front foot. We certainly did enough to get a point and it was a fine delivery and a fine finish."

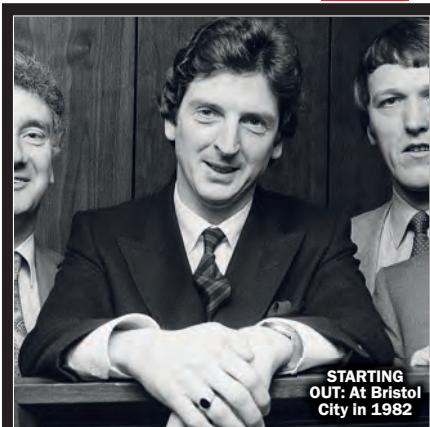
"It's another point on the board and we've just popped out of the relegation zone but there were chances – we've got to start taking them. There were a couple of golden chances we didn't take."

Palace captain Joel Ward said Hodgson is "an integral part of the

# TEPS ASIDE AT SELHURST PARK



**WINNER:** Glasner took the Europa League two years ago at Eintracht Frankfurt



**STARTING OUT:** At Bristol City in 1982

## The highs and lows of Roy's life in football

**HIGH** – It all started in Scandinavia for the Croydon native, who spent the best part of 15 years as a manager in Sweden. After guiding Halmstad to two unexpected Allsvenskan titles, he led Malmö to five in a golden run.

**HIGH** – After entering the international arena, Hodgson helped Switzerland qualify for the 1994 World Cup. He also guided the Swiss to their maiden European Championship in 1996 before taking his leave.

**LOW** – The Londoner was handed a dream job with Inter Milan in 1995, but his time in Italy ended on a sour note when they lost the UEFA Cup final on home turf to Schalke in 1997. While he maintained a strong relationship with club president Massimo Moratti for his rebuilding job at San Siro, he suffered scathing criticism from Brazil star Roberto Carlos.

**LOW** – A first taste of Premier League football proved short-lived when Hodgson was sacked by Blackburn after 17 months at Ewood Park, a bright start blighted as he left Rovers bottom of the table.

**HIGH** – After spells in Denmark, Italy, UAE, Norway and Finland, Hodgson was tempted to return to Britain at the end of 2007 to save relegation-threatened Fulham. He masterminded a memorable escape and then carried the Cottagers to the Europa League. Shakhtar Donetsk and Serie A giants Juventus were defeated before Atlético Madrid proved too strong in the 2010 final.

**LOW** – Lured from Craven Cottage by Liverpool, Hodgson had a brief and brutal stay at Anfield. Weighed down by poor signings, he did not see out the season, with a League Cup upset by Northampton placing him on notice for an inevitable exit in January.

**HIGH** – Rehabilitated by a productive spell with West Brom, he was catapulted into the England job following Fabio

Capello's abrupt departure in 2012. His Three Lions side were bundled out of that year's European Championship after losing a quarter-final to Italy on penalties. But Hodgson lifted the team to third in the FIFA rankings and he was proud to lead them to the 2014 World Cup on the back of an unbeaten qualifying campaign.

**LOW** – England did not follow the 'joga bonito' mantra in Brazil and exited in the World Cup groups for the first time since 1958 following defeats to Italy and Uruguay. It meant their final clash with Costa Rica was a dead-rubber, and a dull goalless draw did little to lift spirits in the country.

**LOW** – After a 100 per cent qualifying record and the introduction of young talents like Harry Kane, optimism was high before Euro 2016, but his team suffered embarrassment as they were knocked out in the last 16 by Iceland. Hodgson handed in his resignation before the night was over, with his legacy trashed.

**HIGH** – A chance to take over at Palace, his boyhood club, was too good to turn down. Despite starting the season with seven defeats, he ensured an 11th-placed finish. He equalled their Premier League points record in the 2018-19 campaign and seemingly 'retired' on his own terms in 2021.

**LOW** – Tempted for a fire-fighting job at Watford, he could not turn the ship around in his five-month stay and took the Hornets down to the Championship.

**LOW** – His homecoming started well, ending a 13-match winless run under Patrick Vieira in his first game back in the Palace dugout. But things veered off course after he agreed another deal for the 2023-24 season. He was reportedly on the verge of the sack when he was taken ill at the club's training ground. He went on to stand down to make way for successor Glasner, making for an unhappy final chapter at Palace.

club's history" following the manager's decision to step down.

The 76-year-old, who fell ill at the club's training ground last week, has decided to call time on his Palace career.

Hodgson managed the Eagles across two spells and Ward has been there since the start of his first tenure, describing the former England boss as being an important part of the Eagles' history.

### History

Ward said: "Our thoughts go out to the gaffer. He's been someone who has been integral to this club for a number of years, so we want to make sure we give him a good send-off and wish him all the best."

"He (Hodgson) has been an integral part of this club's history

and in the Premier League as well with the time he's spent and the players he's worked with."

"We are very fond of him and he's given us so much over the years, so we want to wish him all the best and good health."

Jamie Carragher played under Hodgson when he was manager of Liverpool for the troubled 2010-11 campaign, and he said: "Roy is unique in a number of ways."

"Another thing that makes him unique is not only managing at 76 years of age in the Premier League – which is phenomenal – he's coaching at that age."

"I know from my own experience at Liverpool and last season when he came in with that miraculous job to keep Crystal Palace in the Premier League, he's still on that training pitch day in and day out."



**FAREWELL:**  
Roy at Palace

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## TAV BATTLES FOR HIS SPOT

JAMES Tavernier believes Philippe Clement is facing selection headaches after returning Rangers to the top of the Premiership on Sunday.

With the league, the Scottish Cup and Europa League still available – and the Viaplay Cup already in the Ibrox trophy room – Tavernier spoke about the strength in depth of the Rangers squad.

He said: "It gives us confidence because what people don't see is on the training ground we are all pushing each other and everyone is asking to be in the starting 11 and anybody who is asked to come on the pitch is putting in really good performances.

"So it is a headache for the gaffer but anyone he selects is doing a really good job for the team

"As the gaffer said, we are creating a story together and we need everyone to chip in until the end of the season."



Oddball caught on shop CCTV

## PERVERT IN A KILT HAD SEX WITH ANTIQUE CLOCK

FULL  
STORY:  
PAGE 5



# RACE FOR MASE

## Barca eye bombed out United strike.

**BARCELONA and Atletico Madrid will fight it out this summer for Mason Greenwood.**

The 22-year-old forward has been sensational on loan in Spain for Getafe this season.

He has no future at United despite charges of

By JOHN ANTHONY

attempted rape and assault being dropped last year.

He has a contract until 2025 with United which means they will demand a big fee despite his off-field troubles.

Reports in Europe say Barcelona would be prepared to pay around

£30m for his services as they look to get back up the La Liga table.

The Catalans languish in a disappointing – by their standards – third place with little hope of reeling in arch rivals Real Madrid in the title race.

Greenwood could be an asset for them having scored five times and laid on five assists in 21

appearances for his midtable side this season.

Greenwood, who has one England cap, last played for Manchester United in January 2022.

He was recently at the centre of a storm when Jude Bellingham allegedly called him a 'rapist' during a match at Real Madrid. That is being probed by Spanish authorities.



IN DEMAND:  
Greenwood